Claims

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for preserving content, comprising:

    receiving a request having content originating from a non-authenticated client;

    modifying the request and associating the content with the modified request;

    redirecting the non-authenticated client to an authentication service and including the modified request; and

    receiving the modified request from an authenticated client and reacquiring the content using the modified request.

2.   The method of claim 1 wherein the modifying further includes compressing the content within the modified request.

3.   The method of claim 1 wherein the modifying further includes directing the client to store the content in a temporary file and identifying the temporary file within the modified request.

4.   The method of claim 1 wherein the modifying further includes assigning a key to the modified request, storing the content, and indexing the content based on the key.

5.   The method of claim 1 wherein the redirecting further includes installing a resubmit application on the client that transparently transmits the modified request from the client back to the method when the non-authenticated client is successfully authenticated.

6.   The method of claim 1 further comprising recreating the content based on directions provided in the modified request.

1   7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the request further includes

2   receiving the request as a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) request from a World-

3   Wide Web (WWW) browser on the client, the request received over the Intent using

4   Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) communications.

1   8.   A method for preserving content, comprising:

2   issuing a content-bearing request to a service;

3   receiving a modified request and a redirection for authentication;

4   authenticating with an authentication service; and

5   issuing the modified request to the service.

1   9.   The method of claim 8 wherein the receiving further includes receiving a

2   resubmit application that automatically issues the modified request to the service

3   once authenticated by the authentication service.

1   10.   The method of claim 8 wherein the receiving further includes receiving

2   content sent with the content-bearing request in a compressed format within the

3   modified request.

1   11.   The method of claim 8 wherein the receiving further includes receiving

2   instructions with the modified request to store content sent with the content-bearing

3   request in a temporary file.

1   12.   The method of claim 11 wherein the receiving the instructions further

2   include storing the content as a cookie.

1   13.   The method of claim 8 wherein the receiving further includes receiving a

2   key associated with content sent with the content-bearing request, wherein the key is

3   subsequently used to reacquire the content.

1   14.   The method of claim 8 wherein issuing the content-bearing request further

2   includes issuing the content bearing request as a Hyper Text Transfer Protocol

3   (HTTP) communication including at least one of a PUT operation and a POST

4   operation.

1   15.   A content-preserving system, comprising:

2   a desired service; and

3   a proxy, wherein a client issues a content-bearing request to the desired

4   service and the proxy detects that the client is not authenticated to the desired

5   service, and wherein the proxy preserves content associated with the content-

6   bearing request, redirects the client to an authentication service, and directs the

7   client to issue a modified request after being authenticated, the modified request

8   used by the proxy to reacquire the content and submit the original content-bearing

9   request to the desired service once the client is authenticated.

1   16.   The content-preserving system of claim 15 wherein the modified request

2   includes instructions that direct the proxy on how to reacquire the content.

1   17.   The content-preserving system of claim 16 wherein the instructions indicate

2   that the content is compressed within the modified request.

1   18.   The content-preserving system of claim 16 wherein the instructions indicate

2   that a key within the modified request is used to acquire the content from memory

3   or storage accessible to the proxy.

1   19.   The content-preserving system of claim 16 wherein instructions indicate that

2   the content can be acquired from memory or storage accessible to the client.

1   20.   The content-preserving system of claim 15, wherein the proxy detects that

2   the client is not authenticated from the desired service.

1   21.   A content-preserving data structure residing in computer-readable medium,

2   the content-preserving data structure comprising:

3   an original request data structure associated with an original content-bearing

4   request for a desired service issued from a client;

5   instruction data for reacquire content associated with the original content-

6   bearing request; and

7   modified request data that includes the original request along with the

8   instruction data.

1   22.   The content-preserving data structure of claim 21, wherein the instruction

2   data includes a key for acquiring the content to associated with the original content-

3   bearing request.

1   23.   The content-preserving data structure of claim 22, wherein the key is used

2   for acquiring the content from a storage or memory location remote from the client.

1   24.   The content-preserving data structure of claim 21, wherein the instruction

2   data includes a resubmit application that processes on the client after the client is

3   authenticated and is used by the client to automatically and transparently resubmit

4   the modified request data once the client is authenticated.

1   25.   The content-preserving data structure of claim 21, wherein the instruction

2   data includes the content associated with the original content-bearing request in a

3   compressed format.

1   26.   The content-preserving data structure of claim 21, wherein the instruction

2   data identifies an electronic file residing in memory or storage accessible to the

3   client, the electronic file includes the content.

1   27.   The content-preserving data structure of claim 21, wherein the modified

2   request data is sent from the client, which is authenticated, to the desired service.